

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

MBFR-04 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 SS-20 NSC-10 DRC-01 /134 W

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R 121715Z OCT 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2119

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

MAGG BONN

MAAG NETHERLANDS

CNO WASHDC

NAVAIRSYSCOM WASHDC

OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH LONDON BRANCH OFFICE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOFORN SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 4896

E.O. 11652: GDS 12-31-79

TAGS: MASS, ESTC NATO

SUBJECT: REPORT OF OCTOBER 1973 MEETING OF NATO MARITIME PATROL

AIRCRAFT STEERING COMMITTEE (NMPASC)

SECSTATE FOR EUR/RPM; SECDEF FOR OASD(I&L); CNO FOR OP-098, OP-05,
OP-506D; NAVAIRSYSCOM FOR PMO-240.

REF: A. USNATO 4342 (141730L SEP 73) (NOTAL)

B. STATE 100408 (242154Z MAY 73) (NOTAL)

C. STATE 23535 (072246Z FEB 73) (NOTAL)

D. STATE 24741 (082316X FEB 73) (NOTAL)

E. USNATO 2366 (141750Z M6 73) (NOTAL)

F. USNATO 2792 (051845Z JUN 73) (NOTAL)

G. USNATO 3413 (181430Z JUL 73) (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE REPORTS THE FOLLOWING HIGHLIGHTS OF THE
NMPASC MEETING HELD AT NATO HEADQUARTERS ON OCTOBER 11, 1973:

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(1) LETTER FROM CHAIRMAN, NMPASC TO MOD CANADA AGAIN REQUESTING
SPECIFICATIONS FOR REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT FOR CANADIAN ARGUS
MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT (.0-).

(2) FUTURE OF ATLANTIC II PROGRAM.

ACTION REQUESTED: CONCURRENCE IN ACTION PROPOSED IN PARAGRAPH 2C.,
I.E., IF ASKED TO COMMENT, MISSION WILL NOTE THE SENDING OF THE
LETTER TO MOD CANADA. END SUMMARY.

1. THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE NMPASC WAS HELD AT NATO HEADQUARTERS
ON OCTOBER 11. ALL MEMBER NATIONS (BELGIUM, FRANCE, FEDERAL REPUBLIC
OF GERMANY (FRG)), ITALY, THE NETHERLANDS AND US) WERE REPRESENTED
EXCEPT BELGIUM. THE US WAS REPRESENTED BY CAPTAIN CHISUM (USNATO).
ITEMS OF INTEREST TO US ARE DISCUSSED BELOW:

2. MODIFIED ATLANTIC II AS CANDIDATE TO REPLACE CANADIAN ARGUS MPA.

A. THE CHAIRMAN, NMPASC (REAR ADMIRAL VAN DUIJNEN (RNLN)) TABLED
A LETTER WHICH HE PROPOSES BE SENT FROM THE NMPASC TO THE CANADIAN
MINISTER OF DEFENSE (RICHARDSON). THE LETTER WOULD AGAIN REQUEST
THAT MOD CANADA PROVIDE TO THE NMPASC SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE ARGUS
MPA REPLACEMENT. THE ENGLISH VERSION OF THE LETTER IS QUOTED AS
FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: THE HONOURABLE JAMES RICHARDSON

MINISTER OF DEFENSE, OTTAWA, CANADA

DEAR MINISTER,

HAVING, ON 12TH APRIL, 1973, CONSIDERED YOUR LETTER OF 20TH
MARCH, 1973, THE ATLANTIC STEERING COMMITTEE HAS CONDUCTED A NEW
STUDY IN DEPTH OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE ATLANTIC IN THE COURSE
OF ITS RECENT MEETINGS.

IN MY CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE, I FEEL IT
IS MY DUTY TO OFFER THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS.

THE COMMITTEE WAS GRATEFUL FOR YOUR REFERENCE TO THE IMPORTANCE
WHICH CANADA CONTINUES TO ATTACH TO COOPERATION BETWEEN THE
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MEMBERS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION AND FOR THE
SUPPORT WHICH CANADA KINDLY GAVE US AT THE TIME WHEN THE ATLANTIC
PROGRAMME WAS LAUNCHED. WE ARE WELL AWARE THAT YOUR ARMED FORCES
STAFF FOUND THE AIRCRAFT'S RANGE INADEQUATE IN THE CONFIGURATION
WHICH WAS SELECTED TO MEET THE EUROPEAN USERS' CONCERN FOR ECONOMY.

IN THIS CONNECTION, IT WILL CERTAINLY NOT HAVE ESCAPED YOU
THAT, BETWEEN 1965 AND 1968, THERE WERE NUMEROUS CONTACTS BETWEEN
YOUR STAFF AND CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS ON THE ONE HAND AND THE
STEERING COMMITTEE ON THE OTHER WITH A VIEW TO PROPOSING, IN DUE
COURSE, AN AIRFRAME CONFIGURATION CALCULATED TO MITIGATE THIS SOLE
DEFICIENCY. IN PARTICULAR, IT WAS PROPOSED TO CANADAIR THAT THEY,
IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE SOCIETE EUROPEENNE DE CONSTRUCTION DE
L'AVION BREGUET ATLANTIC, SHOULD DEVELOP A FOUR-TURGOPROP VERSION

OF THE AIRCRAFT WHOSE ONLY VARIATION FROM THE AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN EUROPE WOULD BE LARGER WING AREA AND STRENGTHENING OF THE RELATED STRUCTURES.

WHEN WE BEGIN TO IMPLEMENT THE ATLANTIC MK 2 PROGRAMME, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE FEASIBLE TO FIND, FROM THE OUTSET, A SOLUTION WHICH MEETS BOTH OUR RANGE REQUIREMENT AND YOURS. WE ARE, THEREFORE, QUITE UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE CANADIAN AUTHORITIES COULD HAVE REACHED THE CONCLUSION THAT THE ATLANTIC MK 2 COULD NOT MEET THEIR REQUIREMENTS WITHOUT HAVING FULL DETAILS OF THIS NEW PROGRAMME, CERTAIN ASPECTS OF WHICH ARE, MOREOVER, STILL NOT FINALISED.

FOR ITS PART, THE STEERING COMMITTEE CAN OBVIOUSLY NOT TAKE SPECIAL CANADIAN REQUIREMENTS INTO ACCOUNT UNTIL IT HAS RECEIVED THE SPECIFICATION WHICH YOU SENT TO THE FIVE FIRMS YOU HAVE CONSULTED

WE, LIKE YOURSELF, ARE ANXIOUS STEADFASTLY TO FOSTER COOPERATION AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE AND TO REDUCE ITS LOGISTIC PROBLEMS SO FAR AS POSS
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MBFR-04 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-10 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /134 W
----- 089545

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B. IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF ALL REPRESENTATIVES (EXCEPT FOR US WHO, DRAWING ON GUIDANCE OF REFERENCE B. PARAGRAPH 2. AND REFERENCES C. AND D., NOTED THE PROPOSED ACTION) THAT THE NMPASC SHOULD CONTINUE TO PRESS MOD CANADA FOR THE SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE CANADIAN ARGUS MPA REPLACEMENT. TAKING THIS CONSENSUS AS A MANDATE, THE CHAIRMAN NMPASC IS GOING TO SUBMIT THE PROPOSED LETTER TO THE DUTCH PERMANENT REPRESENT-

ATIVE (SPIERENBURG) BY OCTOBER 12, WITH A REQUEST THAT HE (SPIER-
NEBURG) DISCUSS ITS CONTENTS, AND THE PROPRIETY OF SENDING IT TO MOD

CANADA, WITH PERMREPS OF THE OTHER MEMBER NATIONS OF THE NATO
MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT (NMPA) PROGRAM. REFERENCE E. PARAGRAPH 2.;
REFERENCE F. PARAGRAPH 2.A;
REFERENCE B. PARAGRAPH 2.; AND REFERENCE G. PARAGRAPH 2.B. ARE
GERMANE FOR BACKGROUND.

C. USNATO COMMENT: THE PROPOSED LETTER DOES NOT OFFER ANY
NEW REASONS FOR MOD CANADA TO PROVIDE THE REQUESTED SPECIFICATIONS,
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HENCE IT IS UNLIKELY THAT MOD CANADA WILL DO SO. IF DUTCH PERMREP
DOES SEEK US COMMENT REGARDING CONTENT AND PROPRIETY OF SENDING
PROPOSED LETTER MISSION INTENDS, UNLESS DIRECTED BY WASHINGTON
TO THE CONTRARY, TO FOLLOW GUIDANCE OF REFERENCE B. PARAGRAPH 2.
AND REFERENCES C. AND D. AND TO NOTE THE ACTION OF THE NMPASC.
REQUEST CONCURRENCE.

3. FUTURE OF ATLANTIC II PROGRAM

A. SITUATION REMAINS ESSENTIALLY AS DISCUSSED IN REFERENCE A.
PARAGRAPH 4. AND REFERENCE G. PARAGRAPH 3. EXCEPT THAT FRG HAS
AGAIN DELAYED DECISION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT TO CONTINUE AS A
MEMBER OF THE NMPA MODERNIZATION SUB-COMMITTEE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NATO04896
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS 12-31-79
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731064/abqcecrd.tel
Line Count: 194
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: NOFORN
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NOFORN
Reference: A. USNATO 4342 (141730L SEP 73) (NOTAL) B. STATE 100408 (242154Z MAY 73) (NOTAL) C. STATE 23535 (072246Z FEB 73) (NOTAL) D. STATE 24741 (082316X FEB 73) (NOTAL) E. USNATO 2366 (141750Z M6 73) (NOTAL) F. USNATO 2792 (051845Z JUN 73) (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Jul-2001 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <20-Sep-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORT OF OCTOBER 1973 MEETING OF NATO MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT STEERING COMMITTEE (NMPASC)
TAGS: MASS, ESTC NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO OTTAWA
PARIS
MAGG BONN
MAAG NETHERLANDS

CNO
NAVAIRSYSCOM
OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH LONDON BRANCH OFFICE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005